

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COLLAGE Welcomes its Newest Member, Westminster Canterbury Richmond

Westminster Canterbury Richmond has joined COLLAGE, a national consortium of aging service organizations. The consortium includes over 50 communities in 19 states and is lead by Kendal Outreach (kendaloutreach.org), an affiliate of The Kendal Corporation based in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania and the Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife (hebrewseniorlife.org) in Boston, both not-for-profit organizations. The COLLAGE membership alliance includes continuing care, at-home and housing residences dedicated to improving the lives, well-being and health of their residents/clients.

Through COLLAGE, health and wellness data is available, on-demand, for all residents who have been assessed, and the software provides front-line staff, management, and executives with the tools to organize, track, and manage the data. The program enables the organization to improve its ability to advise individual residents on matters of health, wellness and successful aging and helps the community, based on aggregate data from the individual assessments, to develop stronger system-wide interventions and outcomes. It also facilitates individual and program evaluation.

“COLLAGE fits perfectly with our goal for healthy aging -- to strengthen the body, inspire the mind and nurture the spirit of each person at Westminster Canterbury Richmond,” said Donald Lecky, CEO and President. “COLLAGE will help us help residents guide their own health and develop deeper relationships with each other and our staff. It's a natural extension of our philosophy of resident-centered care that maximizes independence, choice and flexibility for each individual, Lecky added.

"We have great respect for Westminster Canterbury Richmond, its leadership, and its commitment to excellence and growth in serving older people," commented John Diffey, Kendal's CEO and President. "It is an organization that we are confident both will make full use of the additional scientific rigor of the COLLAGE program and will bring additional energy and creativity to the consortium of organizations participating in it. We are delighted to welcome the Westminster Canterbury Richmond team to the COLLAGE project and look forward to working collaboratively with them every step of the way."

COLLAGE assessment tools were developed by interRAI (interrai.org), a not-for-profit collaborative network of researchers, policymakers, and clinicians in over 25 countries committed to improving health care for older people and people with disabilities through

the collection and interpretation of high quality data from scientifically derived assessment systems.

Through the COLLAGE program, residents will meet with Westminster Canterbury Richmond staff at least once a year. In a voluntary one-to-one conversation, a resident and qualified staff identifies an area or theme -- such as nutrition, sleep or preventive health maintenance -- that is particularly challenging to maintain, determine together what may be done about it, and develop a plan for addressing it.

COLLAGE will affect residents in different ways. There are some who may have a desire for assistance with light housekeeping, home repairs, laundry, bathing, etc. Others may not have a need for such services and historically rely more on friends or family for help, when necessary. Whatever the situation might be, the COLLAGE conversation will give Westminster Canterbury Richmond staff a better chance to know their residents' interests, needs and preferences, and better plan for the future if a resident's situation changes and the resident needs more or less help.

Nationally, organizations must be given the tools and resources to enable them to identify interventions, programs and services towards improved health and wellness for their residents in independent and assisted living. With a program like COLLAGE, organizations will be able to reliably and systematically improve resident outcomes.



COLLAGE®, The Art and Science of Healthy Aging

Standardized and integrated health and wellness assessment information for better outcomes. Advance healthy aging in your community. On the web at collageaging.org.